

January 11, 2010

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri joined the staff and administrators at Rome Memorial Hospital to kick off the hospital's \$7 million upgrade to their Hospital Information System (HIS). The upgrade will improve patient safety by reducing medical errors; increase health information sharing between providers, laboratories, pharmacies, and patients; help patients transition between health care settings; and reduce duplicative and unnecessary testing. This integrated HIS is one of the hospital's top priorities to enhance the delivery of evidence-based care and also reduce the risk of medical errors, which will save the hospital money.

"This upgrade will not only increase the efficiency in overall care in the hospital it will also work towards transitioning all medical records into an electronic format," **Arcuri said.** "Our hospitals across Upstate New York operate at a negative profit margin as it is and we need to work towards reducing costs incurred by the hospitals in order to keep them running successfully. This project will position Rome Memorial as one of the leaders in New York State in efficiency and effective care for years to come."

In early December 2009, Arcuri announced he had secured \$250,000 for Rome Memorial Hospital to implement an electronic records and information system to allow for an increase in efficient interactions between multiple departments within the hospital as well as laboratories, pharmacies and patients. This funding will be used as part of the \$7 million HIS upgrade.

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